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Subject: Re: shading(material) of meshes  
Posted by [Rick Towler](#) on Sun, 01 Sep 2002 16:44:45 GMT  
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"Lyubomir Zagorchev" <lzagorch@cs.wright.edu> wrote

> In OpenGL if I have a shaded mesh I can select different types  
> of shading and mesh materials. Every material has certain properties  
> and reflects the light in different ways (for the same light, regardless  
> of the normals). In IDL, if I understand correctly, I can specify only  
> the color for drawing the polygons. Am I right or I am missing  
> something here?

You are correct and not missing a thing. I believe that I have a feature request in for this but I wouldn't hold your breath. The logic at RSI is that by exposing these intrinsically OpenGL features it would complicate any move to another 3d graphics API.

I understand but disagree. This caution was warranted maybe 3 or 4 years ago, but OpenGL is here to stay for a good while and it's replacement (whatever that will be) will undoubtedly support basic features such as material properties.

I urge you to put your request in too. Maybe we'll see it in 5.7....

-Rick

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